

HRIC Executive Committee

Monday, April 17

Meeting Notes

Draft Vision: The Committee reviewed the most recent draft. There were suggestions about the content and it was agreed to edit the document down to between one and two pages. Chip will re-edit the document and distribute it for comment before the next meeting.

VDOL Commissioner: Commissioner McDonald will be retiring on May 31. She was unable to attend this meeting to discuss the transition.

Legislative Update: Chip reported on the progress of the HRIC reauthorization in the Legislature. Since the meeting the conference committee has met and the House Commerce Committee has voted to approve the conference legislation. It contains the language that represents the preferences of the Council, including a name change for the Council to the Vermont Workforce Development Council.

Membership: Chip provided an updated spreadsheet and several members of the Committee agreed to follow-up with a few additional candidates to round out the list. It was also agreed that we should contact the Governor's office to discuss possible new Chairs for the Council. Rick re-confirmed that he is an Interim Chair, and would be leaving soon for a new job in Massachusetts. It was also agreed that if we have sufficient qualified candidates, we should recommend to the Governor that he appoint more than the required minimum number of business/employer members. Subsequent to the meeting, the interest of several additional potential members was confirmed and a final draft of the list was provided to the committee.

Construction Sector: Chip provided a brief update on the Construction sector workforce project. The labor market statistical study is nearly ready and the process of interviewing representatives of the industry has begun. The content of the Construction project was also discussed and it was agreed that it should include some less obvious areas of the sector that help relate construction to other public policy priorities such as training for efficient traffic management, or the refitting and energy efficiency of historic buildings. The committee also discussed developing a process for selecting the next and any future sector studies. Chip was asked to develop a preliminary list of factors that should be considered for the next meeting.

National Conferences: It was agreed that Chip should attend the NGA sponsored conference on sector approaches to workforce development in Washington DC.